

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

---

A NEW SPECIES OF *TRICHODECTES* (MALLOPHAGA:  
TRICHODECTIDAE) FROM THE YELLOW-THROATED  
MARTEN (*MARTES FLAVIGULA*)

BY K. C. EMERSON AND ROGER D. PRICE

2704 North Kensington Street, Arlington, Virginia 22207,  
and Department of Entomology, Fisheries, and Wildlife,  
University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Dr. Howard B. Emery and his colleagues of the Arun Valley Wildlife Expedition recently collected a series of Mallophaga in Nepal on the Yellow-throated Marten. We believe that these lice represent an undescribed species and herewith describe and illustrate it.

***Trichodectes emeryi*, new species**

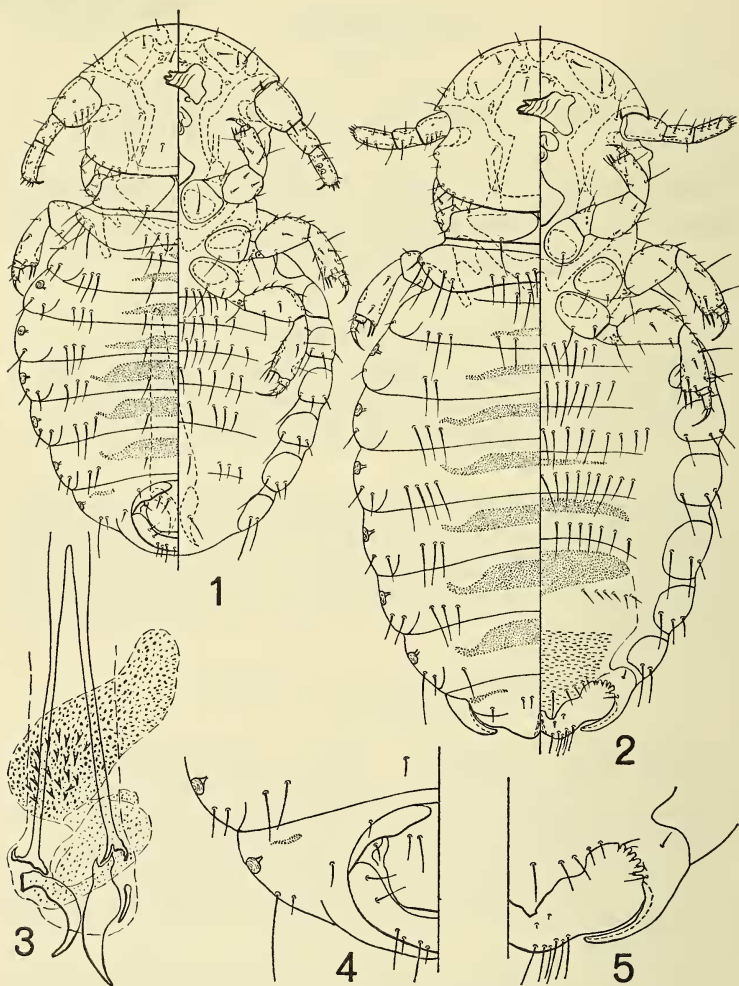
Figures 1-5

*Holotype male*: Total length, 1.28 mm. External morphology and chaetotaxy as shown in Figure 1. Anal region as shown in Figure 4. Genitalia as in Figure 3; genital sac large, with prominent spines; parameres unmatched in size and form, each curved outwardly.

*Allotype*: Total length, 1.64 mm. Female paratypes varying in length from 1.41 to 1.64 mm, reflecting differences in mounting. External morphology and chaetotaxy as shown in Figure 2, with ventral terminalia as in Figure 5.

*Discussion*: *Trichodectes emeryi* does not closely resemble any known species, although it does have a number of characters in common with certain other species. The head, in both sexes, resembles in shape that of *T. octomaculatus* Paine, 1912, found on the Raccoon, and *T. pinguis* Burmeister, 1838, found on the European Brown Bear. The chaetotaxy of *T. emeryi* consists of smaller setae on the dorsum and lateral margins of the head than *T. pinguis*, and the forehead is somewhat more rounded than that of *T. octomaculatus*. Setae on the posterior margin of the pterothorax are more prominent and numerous than *T. pinguis* and *T. octomaculatus*.

Dorsal abdominal chaetotaxy is of the type found on *T. octomaculatus* and *T. fallax* Werneck, 1948, taken from the Crab-eating Raccoon; how-



FIGS. 1-5. *Trichodectes emeryi*, new species. 1, dorsal-ventral view of male. 2, dorsal-ventral view of female. 3, male genitalia. 4, dorsal terminalia of male. 5, ventral terminalia of female.

ever, both sexes of *T. emeryi* usually have three prominent setae (less often two or four) on the posterolateral margins of segments II-VI, instead of two, and the female lacks any medial tergal setae on III-VIII, instead of having the single seta on each side as the other two species or the male of *T. emeryi*. Ventral abdominal chaetotaxy of

segments II-VI is heavier and more numerous than that of *T. octomaculatus* and *T. fallax*.

The female genital region is distinctive, as shown in Figure 5. Male genitalia have uniquely structured parameres and sac. *T. zorillae* Stobbe, 1913, found on the Libyan Striped Weasel, is the only previously known species with dissimilar parameres and an armed genital sac. However, the parameres of *T. emeryi* are short, stout, and curved outwardly, whereas the parameres of *T. zorillae* are long, slender, and curved inwardly at the distal tip.

*Type-host*: *Martes flavigula* (Boddaert, 1785).

*Type-material*: Holotype male, allotype, and 22 paratypes collected off the type-host at Sankhuwa Sabha, Nepal, on 8 February 1973. The holotype and allotype will be deposited in the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution.